New Technique for Processing Pine-Apple Leaf Fibre

2652. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a South India Textile Research Association, Coimbatore has developed a processing technique for spinning pine-apple leaf fibre for apparels;

(b) what are the comparative benefits of new fibre as well as from cotton and synthetic fibres;

(c) whether Government have finally approved the new fibre; and

(d) if so, the details of the plans being chalked out for the extensive use?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) This is a low cost fibre and is expected to provide large scale rural employment.

(c) and (d) South India Textile Research Association, Coimbatore has submitted a project to disseminate its findings for using pineapple plant leaf fibre for manufacturing of yarn and fabrics.

The project has been approved by the inter departmental Screening Committee.

Export of Jute

2653. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India is the second largest exporter of Jute goods next only to Bangladesh;

(b) what was the export of jute goods from India to E.E.C. countries during the last three years as against the export target stipulated for the said period; year-wise;

(c) whether it is a fact that importers from EEC countries Japan, Australia and New Zealand have shown a keen interest in both traditional as well as diversified jute products manufactured in India; and

(d) what steps Government have taken to boost exports of jute goods to General Currency Areas in particular and other areas in general?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Export of jute goods from India to EEC during the last three years is given below:—

	Rs. crores
1989-90	54.12
1990-91	34.99
1991-92	75.24

Country-wise targets for exports were not fixed.

(c) Yes Sir.

(d) Multidimensional activities have been undertaken for promotion of jute exports including participation in international fairs, organising buyers-sellers meats, commissioning of market studies, liaising with importers and end-users and conducting publicity compaigns. In addition exports have been promoted through extension of marketing assistance and DGS&D orders for supply of jute bags have been linked with an obligation to export jute products to General Currency Area countries.

हथ करघा वस्त्र के लिए सती धागे की आपूर्ति प्रणाली में सुधार

2654. श्रीमती सुषमा स्वराज :
डा० जितेन्द्र कुमार जैन :

क्या वस्त्र मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा